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TWO - SECANT FORMULA

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We give here a proof of the well-known "secant-formula", (see [S-R], p.214). There exist several proofs of this formula, in [H], [K1], [LK], [P-S]. Our proof, based on the existence of a secant-scheme, as defined in [La], shows that the formula actually gives the number of 2-secants of X in $P = \mathbb{P}_k^{2\dim X+1}$ through a general point of P , multiplicities counted. Furthermore, one would hope that it prepares the way for a similar study of r -secants, $r \geq 3$.

I. STRATIFICATION OF THE SECANT-SCHEME.

Let X be a closed algebraic subvariety of a projective space $P = \mathbb{P}_k^N$ over an algebraically closed field k .

Definition: Let r be a positive integer. A line l in P is said to be an r -secant of X if $X \times_P l$ (the intersection of l and X in P) is a 0-dimensional scheme of degree r .

Let us denote by G the Grassmann scheme parametrizing the rank 2 quotients of k^{N+1} (or equivalently lines in P) and by Q the universal rank 2 quotient bundle of k_G^{N+1} on G . In [La], Laudal defined a locally closed subscheme $\text{Sec}_r(X)$ of G , the r -secant scheme of X , parametrizing the r -secants of X . Let us recall briefly his definition.

Consider the following fiber square, where $L = \mathbb{P}_G(Q)$ denotes the tautological line bundle on G , naturally embedded in $P \times G$, and $Z = L \times_{P \times G} (X \times G)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z & \xrightarrow{\quad} & L \\ \downarrow & \searrow t & \downarrow \\ X \times G & \xrightarrow{(i,1)} & P \times G \xrightarrow{p_2} G \end{array}$$

(p_i , $i=1,2$, will always denote the projection of a product on the first and second factor respectively).

As a coherent sheaf on $P \times G$, the structure sheaf \mathcal{O}_Z of Z defines a "flattening stratification of G " ([M], lecture 8), i.e. a disjoint family of locally-closed subschemes Y_i of G such that $G = \bigcup_{i=1}^n Y_i$ and $\mathcal{O}_{Z \times_Y Y_i}$ is flat over Y_i . Let $\text{Sec}_r(X)$, the r -secant scheme of X , denote the union of all Y_i such that the fibers of $p_2 \circ t$ over Y_i are 0-dimensional of degree r . (The Y_i being indexed by the Hilbert-polynomial of $\mathcal{O}_{Z \times_Y Y_i}$ on $P \times Y_i$.)

$\text{Sec}_r(X)$ is a locally closed subscheme of G , the k -points of which actually correspond to the r -secants of X .

$\text{Sec}_r(X)$ represents a subfunctor $\underline{\text{Sec}}_r(X)$ of the Grassmann functor \underline{G} . One may prove (see [La]) that the fiber functors of $\underline{\text{Sec}}_r(X)$ are deformation functors, the hull of which $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_{\text{Sec}_r(X),1}$ (the completed local ring of $\text{Sec}_r(X)$ at 1) can be computed. This provides local information on $\text{Sec}_r(X)$. One result says that if an r -secant l is intersecting X in r distinct non singular points of X , l is a non singular point of $\text{Sec}_r(X)$ if and only if the embedding-dimension of $\mathcal{O}_{\text{Sec}_r(X),1}$ is equal to $2(N-1) - r(N - \dim X - 1)$. For $r \leq 2$, $\text{Sec}_r(X)$ is always non singular at 1 .

II. TWO-SECANT FORMULA

Let $X \xrightarrow{i} P$ be a closed embedding as above, X being non singular. Writing $S_2 = \text{Sec}_2(X)$, let L_2 be the restriction to S_2 of the tautological bundle L on G , let $s_2: L_2 \rightarrow P \times S_2$ be the canonical embedding and $\varphi_2 = p_1 \circ s_2: L_2 \rightarrow P$.

THEOREM: Suppose $X \xrightarrow{i} P$ is such that through a generic point of P there passes a finite number $\neq 0$ of 2-secants. Then

i) $N = 2 \dim X + 1$

$$\dim S_2 = 2 \dim X \quad \text{and}$$

$$\overline{\text{im } \varphi_2} = P.$$

ii) Moreover S_2 is non singular and φ_2 is generically quasi-finite of degree δ_2 , the number of 2-secants through the generic point of P .

iii) δ_2 is given by the following two-secant formula:

$$2\delta_2 = \deg^2(X) - \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{2n+1}{n+i} \deg s_i(X)$$

where $s_i(X)$ is the i^{th} Segre-class of X as an element of the Chow-ring $A^\circ(X)$ and $\deg(\)$ denotes the degree in P of a subscheme or its corresponding class in $A^\circ(P)$.

Let us prove the theorem.

1. Proof of i) and ii).

As an easy consequence of [La] one deduces that S_2 , if non empty, is non singular of dimension $2\dim X$. In fact, if $l \in S_2$ is not a tangent, S_2 is non singular at l , of dimension $2 \dim X$. This follows from $\dim_k A^1 = 2 \dim X = 2(N-1) - 2(N-d-1) + \epsilon$ and $\dim_k A^2 = \dim Q = 0$ (see the discussion preceding the "trisecant lemma", §3 loc. cit.)

If $l \in S_2$ is a tangent, we still find $\dim_k A^1 = 2 \dim X$, $A^2 = 0$ (see the forthcoming thesis of Tore Wentzel-Larsen), so that S_2

is non singular at 1. In fact (see §3 loc. cit.)

$$A^1 = \ker (l, m-n)$$

$$A^2 = \text{Coker } (l, m-n)$$

where l, m and n may be computed as follows. Suppose X is defined by the homogeneous ideal \underline{a} of $k[X_0, \dots, X_N]$ and l by the ideal (X_2, \dots, X_N) . Let x be the point in which l cuts X .

We may assume $\underline{a} \cap 0_{X,x} = (f_{d+1}, \dots, f_N)$, where $d = \dim X$, $x = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$. Let $Y_i = \frac{X_i}{X_0}$, $i=1, \dots, N$. The morphisms l, m, n of the diagram of ([La₂]§3) is:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} H^0(X, N_X) & & \text{Hom}_{k[\epsilon]}(A/A^2, k[\epsilon]) & & \text{Hom}_{k[X_0, X_1]}^{gr} \left(\frac{(X_2, \dots, X_N)}{(X_2, \dots, X_N)^2}, k[X_0, X_1] \right)_0 \\ & \searrow \circ & \downarrow l & \downarrow m & \downarrow n \\ & \text{Hom}_{k[\epsilon]} \left(\frac{(f_{d+1}, \dots, f_N)}{A(f_{d+1}, \dots, f_N)}, k[\epsilon] \right) & & \text{Hom}_{k[\epsilon]} \left(\frac{(Y_2, \dots, Y_N)}{(Y_2, \dots, Y_N)^2}, k[\epsilon] \right) & \end{array}$$

where $A = (Y_1^2, Y_2, \dots, Y_N)$ is the ideal of $z = X \cap l$ in the affine piece where $X_0 \neq 0$ and $k[\epsilon] = k[Y_1, \dots, Y_N]/A$. Consider first A^1 ; clearly n is an isomorphism, thus $A^1 = \ker l$. Since X is non singular, $\text{rank}_{k[\epsilon]}((f_{d+1}, \dots, f_N)/A(f_{d+1}, \dots, f_N), k[\epsilon]) = N-d$. By a proper choice of bases in the diagram above, one gets $A^1 = \ker M$, where M is the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} M_1 & 0 \\ M_2 & M_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f_i(x)}{\partial Y_1^2} & \frac{\partial f_i(x)}{\partial Y_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_i(x)}{\partial Y_N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

and M_2 contains higher derivatives of the f_i 's. By non singularity of X , $\text{rank } M = 2\text{rank } M_1 = 2(N-d)$, therefore $\text{coker } (l, m-n) = \text{coker } l = 0$, i.e. $A^2 = 0$.

Since S_2 is non singular of dimension $2\dim X$, we have $\dim L_2 = 2\dim X + 1$. By assumption, the generic fiber of φ_2 is finite and non empty, which implies that $\dim L_2 = \dim P$, that is, $N = 2\dim X + 1$ and $\overline{\text{Im } \varphi_2} = P$. φ_2 is generically quasi-finite of degree δ_2 , the number of 2-secants through the generic point of P . In order to compute δ_2 , we need a useful morphism $\sigma: X \tilde{\times} X \rightarrow G$, where $X \tilde{\times} X$ denotes the blowing up of $X \times X$ along the diagonal.

2. The morphism $\sigma: X \tilde{\times} X \rightarrow G$.

Let $P \tilde{\times} P$ denote the blowing-up of $P \times P$ along the diagonal, and ϵ_P (resp. ϵ_X) the exceptional locus in $P \tilde{\times} P$ (resp. $X \tilde{\times} X$). Then there exists a morphism $\gamma: P \tilde{\times} P \rightarrow G$ (see [Kl.], V.B). Let us recall the definition.

a) If Ω_P^1 denotes the cotangent sheaf on P , we have the following exact sequence on P .

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega_P^1(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_P^{N+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_P(1) \rightarrow 0.$$

Let R denote the projective bundle $\mathbb{P}_P(\Omega_P^1(1))$ and p the structure morphism $R \xrightarrow{p} P$. Let K_R be the kernel of the natural surjective homomorphism $p^* \Omega_P^1(1) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_R(1) \rightarrow 0$, and E the locally free rank 2 \mathcal{O}_R -module defined to make the following diagram exact and commutative:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & & & 0 & & & \\ \downarrow & & & \downarrow & & & \\ K_R & \xlongequal{\quad} & & K_R & & & \\ \downarrow & & & \downarrow & & & \\ 0 \rightarrow p^* \Omega_P^1(1) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{O}_R^{N+1} & \longrightarrow & p^* \mathcal{O}_P(1) & \rightarrow 0. & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel & & \\ 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_R(1) & \dashrightarrow & E & \dashrightarrow & p^* \mathcal{O}_P(1) & \rightarrow 0. & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & & & \\ 0 & & 0 & & & & \end{array}$$

E , as a rank 2 quotient of \mathcal{O}_R^{N+1} , provides a morphism

$\alpha : R \rightarrow G$ such that $\alpha^* Q = E$. The fiber of p over a point $x \in P$ consists, as a set, of all lines in P through x . α takes a point of R , that is, a line l through $x \in P$, to the corresponding point l in G . The factorization $O_R^{N+1} \rightarrow \alpha^* Q = E \rightarrow p^* O_P(1)$, where all the homomorphisms are surjective, gives a factorization of (p, α) through $\mathbb{P}_G(Q)$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & (p, \alpha) & \\ R & \rightarrow & P \times G \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ & \mathbb{P}_G(Q) & \end{array}$$

and it is easy to prove that the morphism $R \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_G(Q)$ defined by $E \rightarrow p^* O_P(1) \rightarrow 0$ is in fact an isomorphism, by which we can identify R and $\mathbb{P}_G(Q)$ as $(P \times G)$ -schemes.

- b) There is on the other hand the key morphism $\lambda : P \tilde{\times} P \rightarrow R$, defined in [K1.]. (See also [H], [Lk]). λ can be described as follows. Outside of ϵ_P , λ is equal to the projection of $P \times P$ from the diagonal $\mathbb{P}_P(O_P(1))$ on $R = \mathbb{P}_P(\Omega_P^1(1))$. λ takes a point (x, y) not in ϵ_P to $(x, \overline{xy}) \in R \subset P \times G$, where \overline{xy} is the line through x and y as an element of G , while the restriction of λ to $\epsilon_P = \mathbb{P}_P(\Omega_P^1)$ is the natural P -isomorphism $\mathbb{P}_P(\Omega_P^1) \simeq \mathbb{P}_P(\Omega_P^1(1))$. Consider now the projective bundle $\mathbb{P}_R(E)$ over R . It is a subbundle of $P \times R$ and a $(P \times P)$ -scheme by the composed morphism

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{P}_R(E) & \rightarrow & P \times P \\ & \searrow & \downarrow (p_1, p) \\ & & P \times P \end{array}$$

$P \tilde{\times} P$ can be identified with $\mathbb{P}_R(E)$ both as R -scheme (via λ) and a $P \times P$ -scheme (via the blowing-up morphism).

- c) Consider the morphism $\gamma = \alpha \circ \lambda : P \tilde{\times} P = \mathbb{P}_R(Q_L) \xrightarrow{\lambda} R = \mathbb{P}_G(Q) = L \xrightarrow{\alpha} G$. By the identification $\mathbb{P}_R(\alpha^*Q) \simeq \mathbb{P}_G(Q) \times \mathbb{P}_G(Q) = L \times L$, the subscheme $\mathbb{P}_R(O_R(1))$ of $\mathbb{P}_R(Q_L)$ is identified with the diagonal of $L \times L$, the morphism λ with the first projection, and γ with the structure morphism $L \times L \rightarrow G$. By the inclusion $L \subset P \times G$, $L \times L$ has a natural structure of $P \times P$ -scheme and the identification with $\mathbb{P}_R(\alpha^*Q)$, whence with $P \tilde{\times} P$, is a $P \times P$ -isomorphism. The morphism $\gamma : P \tilde{\times} P \rightarrow G$ is "natural" in the following sense: it takes a point of $P \tilde{\times} P = L \times L$, that is, a triple (x, y, l) where l is a line through $x, y \in P$, to the corresponding point $l \in G$.
- d) $X \tilde{\times} X$ can be seen as the proper transform of $X \times X$ under the blowing up $P \tilde{\times} P$. We define $\sigma : X \tilde{\times} X \rightarrow G$ to be the restriction of γ to $X \tilde{\times} X$.

3. Proof of the secant-formula iii).

Let S denote the scheme-theoretical image by σ of $X \tilde{\times} X$ in G . Since X is reduced, irreducible, so are $X \tilde{\times} X$ and S . We have clearly $S_2 \subset S$. Since S_2 is non singular and $\dim S_2 = \dim X \tilde{\times} X = 2 \dim X$, S is the closure in G of S_2 . Let L_S denote the restriction of L to S and φ_S the composed morphism of the natural embedding $L_S \rightarrow P \times S$ with p_1

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L_S & \longrightarrow & P \times S \\ & \searrow \varphi_S & \downarrow p_1 \\ & & P \end{array}$$

We have clearly $S = \bar{S}_2$, $L = \bar{L}_2$, $\text{im } \varphi_S = \overline{\text{im } \varphi_2}$ and φ_S is generically finite of degree δ_2 .

Let $B = X \tilde{\times} X$, let Q_B denote the pull-back of Q to B , with $L_B = \mathbb{P}_B(Q_B)$ and let σ_L be the induced morphism $L_B \rightarrow L_S$

in the cartesian diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 L_B & \xrightarrow{\sigma_L} & L_S & \longrightarrow & P \times S \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & \searrow \varphi_S & \downarrow p_1 \\
 B & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & S & & P
 \end{array}$$

σ , and hence σ_L , are generically finite of degree 2.

Put $\varphi = \varphi_S \circ \sigma_L$. Then φ is generically of finite degree:

$$\deg \varphi = 2 \deg \varphi_S = 2\delta_2.$$

Let us compute $\deg \varphi$.

We denote by $\tilde{p}_i: P \tilde{\times} P \rightarrow P$, $i=1,2$, the composed morphism of the blowing up $P \tilde{\times} P \rightarrow P \times P$ and the projection p_i , $i=1,2$, as well as its restriction to $X \tilde{\times} X$ if no confusion is possible. Consider the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 B & \xrightarrow{j} & L_B & & \\
 \downarrow r & \searrow t & \downarrow s & & \\
 X \times B & \xrightarrow{(i,1)} & P \times B & & \\
 \downarrow \tilde{p}_1 & \searrow \varphi & \downarrow p_1 & \searrow p_2 & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{i} & P & & B
 \end{array} \quad (*)$$

where $r = (\tilde{p}_1, 1)$, $t = (i, 1) \circ r$, and s is the natural embedding $L_B \rightarrow P \times B$. The image by t of an element $b \in B$ lying over $(x, y) \in X \times X$ is (x, b) . We have seen that b corresponds to a line through x and y ; we have therefore $(x, b) \in L_B$ and t factorizes through L_B . Let j be such that $t = s \circ j$.

All the schemes considered are quasi-projective, non singular. We can therefore identify their Chow cohomology and homology groups of cycles modulo rational equivalence.

To the proper morphism φ corresponds a homomorphism φ_* of Chow cohomology groups, $\varphi_* : A^*(L_B) \rightarrow A^*(P) = \mathbb{Z}[T]/T^{n+1}$ where T is the class in $A^1(P)$ of an hyperplane. L_B is reduced, irreducible, and φ has generic degree $2\delta_2$, so we have

$$\varphi_*(1) = 2\delta_2.$$

a) Let us compute first $s_*(1)$, the class of L_B in $A^*(P \times B)$.

Let K denote the kernel of the quotient $V_B \rightarrow Q_B \rightarrow 0$ defined by σ , with $V = k^{N+1}$. By [Lk] (lemma 2 p.173), $L_B = \mathbb{P}_G(Q_B)$ is the "scheme of zeroes" of the homomorphism $\kappa : K_{P \times B} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{P \times B}(1)$ obtained by composing the homomorphism $0 \rightarrow K_{P \times B} \rightarrow V_{P \times B}$ with the surjective homomorphism $V_{P \times B} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{P \times B}(1)$ on $P \times B = \mathbb{P}_B(V)$.

$P \times B$ is non singular and L_B has codimension $N-1$, equal to the rank of $K_{P \times B}$. Let us denote by $c_i(F)$ the i^{th} Chern class in $A^i(P \times B)$ of a locally free $\mathcal{O}_{P \times B}$ -module F , and by $s_i(F)$ the i^{th} "inverse" Chern class of F in $A^i(P \times B)$, defined by

$$\left(\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} s_i(F) \right) \left(\sum_{i \in \mathbb{N}} c_i(F) \right) = 1. \text{ Then by [G] (théorème 2) the class } [L_B]$$

of L_B in $A^*(P \times B)$ is given by

$$(1) \quad [L_B] = c_{N-1}(\overset{V}{K}_{P \times B} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{P \times B}} \mathcal{O}_{P \times B}(1))$$

where $\overset{V}{K}_{P \times B}$ is the dual $\mathcal{O}_{P \times B}$ -module of $K_{P \times B}$.

b) Let us prove

$$(2) \quad \varphi_*(1) = p_{1*}[L_B] = p_{1*}(s_{N-1}(Q_{P \times B})).$$

By the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow K_{P \times B} \rightarrow V_{P \times B} \rightarrow Q_{P \times B} \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$c_{N-1}(\overset{V}{K}_{P \times S} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{P \times S}} \mathcal{O}_{P \times S}(1)) = \sum_{i \geq 0} (\overset{V}{Q}_{P \times B}) T^{N-1-i}.$$

But $p_{1*}(s_i(\overset{V}{Q}_{P \times B}) T^{N-1-i}) = T^{N-1-i} p_{1*} s_i(\overset{V}{Q}_{P \times B})$ and since $\dim B = N-1$, $p_{1*}(s_i(\overset{V}{Q}_{P \times B})) = 0$ for all $i < N-1$. We note that, $(N-1)$ being even, $s_{N-1}(\overset{V}{Q}_{P \times B}) = s_{N-1}(\overset{V}{Q}_{P \times B})$.

Q.E.D.

c) Consider the diagram (*) above.

We have in $A^*(P)$ the following formula:

$$(3) \quad p_{1*} t_*(s_{N-1} Q_B) = \delta_2 T^N.$$

Proof of (3). The morphism $p_2 \circ t$ is the identity morphism on B .

Let us write

$$t_*(1) = \sum_{i \geq 0} b_i T^{N-i}, \quad b_i \in A^i(B).$$

Then

$$(p_2 \circ t)_*(1) = \text{id}_B^*(1) = 1$$

and

$$p_{2*}(t_*(1)) = p_{2*}(b_0 T^N) = b_0$$

which implies $b_0 = 1$ in $A^*(B)$.

By functoriality of the Chern classes, we have:

$$s_{N-1}(Q_B) = t^* s_{N-1}(Q_{P \times B}).$$

Then (2) implies (3), by:

$$\begin{aligned} p_{1*} t_*(s_{N-1}(Q_B)) &= p_{1*}(s_{N-1}(Q_{P \times B}) t_*(1)) \quad (\text{projection formula}) \\ &= p_{1*}(s_{N-1}(Q_{P \times B}) \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} b_i T^{N-i}) = p_{1*}(s_{N-1}(Q_{P \times B}) b_0 T^N) \\ &= T^N p_{1*}(s_{N-1}(Q_{P \times B})) = \delta_2 T^N. \end{aligned}$$

d) In the commutative diagram (*), we have:

$$p_1 \circ t = i \circ p_1 \circ r = i \circ \tilde{p}_1, \quad \text{so we can replace (3) by (3'):$$

$$\delta_2 T^N = i_* \tilde{p}_{1*}(s_{N-1} Q_B).$$

In order to compute $s_{N-1}(Q_B)$, let us put

$$\alpha_1 = \tilde{p}_1^* i^*(T)$$

$$\alpha_2 = \tilde{p}_2^* i^*(T)$$

and let τ denote the inclusion morphism $\varepsilon_X \rightarrow B$ of the exceptional locus ε_X of B .

Then we have in $A^*(B)$:

Lemma 2: $c_1(Q_B) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - \tau_*(1)$

$$c_2(Q_B) = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - \tau_*(1) .$$

Proof of lemma 2: We have identified $P \tilde{\times} P$ with $L \times_L L$ as G -schemes and $P \times P$ -schemes. Let \tilde{i} denote the embedding

$$X \tilde{\times} X \xrightarrow{\tilde{i}} L \times_L L = P \tilde{\times} P$$

which corresponds to $i : X \rightarrow P$ in a natural way. Let Δ denote the diagonal in $L \times_L L$ and

$$\mathcal{L}_1 = p_1^* \mathcal{O}_L(1)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = p_2^* \mathcal{O}_L(2) .$$

Look at the morphisms λ and α :

$$L \times_L L = \mathbb{P}_L(Q_L) \xrightarrow{\lambda} L = \mathbb{P}_G(Q) \xrightarrow{\alpha} G .$$

By identifying $L \times_L L$ and $\mathbb{P}_L(Q_L)$ we also get:

$$\Delta = \mathbb{P}_L(\mathcal{O}_L(1)) , \quad \mathcal{L}_1 = \lambda^* \mathcal{O}_L(1) ,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_L(Q_L)}(1) .$$

Using again [Lk] (lemma 2), we see that the L -subbundle Δ of $L \times_L L$ is the "scheme of zeroes" of the composed morphism:

$\lambda^* H \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_L(Q_L)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_L(Q_L)}(1)$, where H is the kernel of $Q_L \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(1) \rightarrow 0$ on L , and by [G] (théorème 2) we get

$$\begin{aligned} [\Delta] &= c_1(\lambda^* H \otimes \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_L(Q_L)}(1)) \text{ in } A^*(\mathbb{P}_L(Q_L)) \\ &= -c_1(\lambda^* H) + c_1(\mathcal{L}_2). \end{aligned}$$

By the exact sequence $0 \rightarrow H \rightarrow Q_L \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_L(1) \rightarrow 0$ this becomes

$$[\Delta] = -c_1(\mathcal{Q}_{L \times L}) + c_1(\mathcal{L}_1) + c_1(\mathcal{L}_2).$$

G

Since \mathcal{L}_1 is a quotient of Q , we get

$$\begin{aligned} c_1(\mathcal{Q}_{L \times L}) &= c_1(\mathcal{L}_1) + c_1(\mathcal{L}_2) - [\Delta] \\ c_2(\mathcal{Q}_{L \times L}) &= c_1(\mathcal{L}_1)(c_1(\mathcal{L}_2) - [\Delta]). \end{aligned}$$

G

To prove the lemma, it is enough to see that $\tilde{\tau}^*[\Delta] = \tau_*(1)$. By $P \tilde{\times} P = L \times L$, Δ is equal to the exceptional divisor ϵ_P and we know that the restriction of the invertible sheaf $\mathcal{O}_{P \times P}(\epsilon_P)$ to $X \tilde{\times} X$ is $\mathcal{O}_{X \tilde{\times} X}(\epsilon_X)$, which implies that

$$\tilde{\tau}^*[\Delta] = [\epsilon_X] = \tau_*(1).$$

Q.E.D.

It is now easy to compute $s_{N-1}(Q_B) = s_{2n}(Q_B)$ where $n = \dim X$.

By lemma 2

$$s_{2n}(Q_B) = \sum_{i=0}^{2n} \alpha_1^i (\alpha_2 - \tau_*(1))^{2n-i}.$$

Clearly $\alpha_1^i \alpha_2^{2n-i} = 0$ for all $i \neq n$, so we get:

$$s_{2n}(Q_B) = \alpha_1^n \alpha_2^n + \tau_*(1) \sum_{i=0}^{2n} \alpha_1^{2n-i} \sum_{j=1}^i (-1)^j \binom{i}{j} \alpha_2^{i-j} \tau_*(1)^{j-1}.$$

But $\tau^* \tau_*(1) = c_1(N_{\epsilon_X|B})$ (self intersection formula)

where $N_{\epsilon_X|B}$ is the conormal sheaf of ϵ_X in B and we know that on $\epsilon_X = \mathbb{P}_X(\Omega_X^1)$, $N_{\epsilon_X|B} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_X(\Omega_X^1)}(1)$ (Ω_X^1 denotes the cotangent sheaf on X). Let us put $\xi = \tau^* \tau_*(1) = c_1(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{P}_X(\Omega_X^1)}(1))$. Then, using the "projection formula", we get

$$s_{2n}(Q_B) = \alpha_1^n \alpha_2^n + \tau_* \left(\sum_{i=1}^{2n} \tau^*(\alpha_1)^{2n-i} \sum_{j=1}^i (-1)^{2j-1} \binom{i}{j} \tau^* \alpha_2^{i-j} \xi^{j-1} \right)$$

Let e be the structure morphism $\epsilon_X \xrightarrow{e} X$, and draw the diagonal morphism in the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \epsilon_X = \mathbb{P}_X(\Omega_X^1) & \xrightarrow{\tau} & X \tilde{\times} X & & \\ \downarrow e & & \downarrow & & \\ X & \xrightarrow{\text{diag}} & X \times X & \xrightarrow{(i,i)} & P \times P \\ & \searrow & \downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow p_1 \\ & & X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \underline{P} \end{array}$$

It is easily seen that

$$\tau^* \alpha_1 = \tau^* \alpha_2 = e^* i^*(T).$$

Consider formula (3').

$$i_* \tilde{p}_{1*} s_{2n}(Q_B) = i_* \tilde{p}_{1*} (\alpha_1^n \alpha_2^n) - i_* e_* \left(\sum_{i=1}^{2n} \sum_{j=1}^i e^* i^*(T)^{2n-j} \binom{i}{j} \xi^j \right).$$

$$\text{Clearly } i_* \tilde{p}_{1*} (\alpha_1^n \alpha_2^n) = p_{1*} (i, i)_* (i^* T^n \otimes i^* T^n)$$

$$= p_{1*} (T^n i_*(1) \otimes T^n i_*(1)) = p_{1*} (T^{2n+1} \deg X \otimes T^{2n+1} \deg X)$$

$$= (\deg X)^2 T^{2n+1}, \text{ and}$$

$$i_* \tilde{p}_1 * s_{2n}(Q_B) = (\deg X)^2 T^{2n+1} - \sum_{j=n}^{2n} \sum_{i=j}^{2n} \binom{i}{j} T^{2n-j} i_* e_*(\xi^{j-1}) .$$

Let s_i denote the i^{th} Segre class of X .

By definition, $e_*(\xi^{j-1}) = s_{j-n}(X)$, and by the identity

$$\sum_{i=j}^{2n} \binom{i}{j} = \binom{2n+1}{j} \quad \text{we get}$$

$$i_* e_* s_{2n}(Q_B) = (\deg X)^2 T^{2n+1} - \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{2n+1}{n+j} i_* s_j(X) T^{2n-j} .$$

Finally, this implies the two-secant formula:

$$2\delta_2 = (\deg X)^2 - \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{2n+1}{n+j} \deg(s_j(X)) .$$

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